

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO

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SUBJECT: PAPER FOR CONFERENCE ON DEFENSE PREPAREDNESS

REF: USNATO 4621

1. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND NATO TO BE A CORNERSTONE OF US FOREIGN POLICY AND EXTENSIVE EFFORTS ARE MADE TO FURTHER AN UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OF THE NEED FOR THE NATO ALLIANCE AND FOR AN ADEQUATE DEFENSE.

2. ADMINISTRATION SPEAKERS FROM THE PRESIDENT ON DOWN REGULARLY INCLUDE IN THEIR PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND IN THEIR CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY LANGUAGE IN SUPPORT AND EXPLANATION OF THIS POLICY.

3. IN COORDINATION WITH THE NATO DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION, THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND DEFENSE CARRY OUT CAREFULLY PLANNED PROGRAMS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CALCULATED TO UNCLASSIFIED

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PROMOTE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT FOR NATO AND,

IN THE PROCESS, COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL, WHICH HAVE SIMILAR OBJECTIVES.

4. WITHIN THIS PAST YEAR DEPARTMENT OF STATE INFORMATION ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF NATO HAVE INCLUDED THE DISTRIBUTION

TO SELECTED AUDIENCES OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF COPIES OF SPEECHES AND STATEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND OTHER PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT. PUBLIC INFORMATION MATERIALS, INCLUDING AUDIO VISUAL MATERIALS, PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAVE BEEN SENT TO SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, AND RADIO AND TV STATIONS. THE DISTRIBUTION OF NATO PROVIDED MATERIALS SUCH AS "VERSUS" AND THE "NATO HANDBOOK" AND "NATO REVIEW" BY THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN EXPANDED. CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS ARRANGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE BOTH IN WASHINGTON AND THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES HAVE FOCUSED ON THE NEED FOR NATO. SEMINARS FOR TOP BUSINESS EXECUTIVES AND FOR TEACHERS STIMULATED BY THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL HAVE BEEN HELD IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WITH THE FULL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE INCLUDING THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SECRETARY.

5A. THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS AND THROUGH VARIOUS MEANS AND CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATIONS MAKES KNOWN TO THE AMERICAN AND OTHER PUBLICS, THE IMPORTANCE OF NATO TO THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES AND HER ALLIES.

5B. CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ARE THE CHIEF MEANS BY WHICH THE DEPARTMENT IMPARTS THE NATO MESSAGE TO THE PUBLIC. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, THE CHIEFS OF THE MILITARY SERVICES AND OTHER KEY DEFENSE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS CONTRIBUTE IN THE SAME MANNER.

5C. KEY AMONG THE MANY DEFENSE PUBLICATIONS WHICH PROMINENTLY PORTRAY THE NEED FOR NATO AND UNDERLINE THE UNCLASSIFIED

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U.S. MILITARY COMMITMENT TO THE ORGANIZATION ARE THE ANNUAL POSTURE STATEMENT OF THE SECRETARY AND CHAIRMAN REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE AMERICAN MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT. OVER TEN THOUSAND COPIES OF THESE DOCUMENTS ARE DISTRIBUTED ANNUALLY TO AMERICAN AND FOREIGN MEDIA, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC. THE MEDIA USE THESE DOCUMENTS AS BASIC REFERENCES ON THE U.S. MILITARY.

5D. THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (PUBLIC AFFAIRS) WORKS ACTIVELY WITH THE NATO AND SHAPE INFORMATION OFFICES IN CHANNELING NEWS TO THE PUBLIC ABOUT NATO.

5E. WORKING IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE NATO DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS, THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION

FOR THE ARMED FORCES PROVIDES CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE NATO INFORMATION PLAN FOR THE U.S. THIS OFFICE HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR INTERNAL INFORMATION IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES. MOST RECENTLY MULTI-MEDIA INFORMATION COVERAGE WAS PROVIDED FOR THE SPRING 1974 TOUR OF NATO PANEL U.S.A. PROGRAM AND THE DECEMBER 27, 1973 ISSUE OF COMMANDERS DIGEST, AN ARMED FORCES WIDE PUBLICATION, WAS DEVOTED TO NATO. OTHER NATO SUBJECT AREAS RECEIVE COVERAGE ON A SUSTAINING BASIS.

6A. THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES IS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED TO DEAL WITH MUTUAL PROBLEMS OF THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY, INCLUDING NATO, AND BELIEVES THAT THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF NATO, ALONG WITH OTHERS, HAS HELPED TO CARRY THE WESTERN WORLD A GIANT STRIDE FORWARD IN COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS AND OFFERS GREAT PROMISE FOR THE FUTURE.

6B. TO HELP FURTHER UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEED FOR THE NATO ALLIANCE, THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL PUBLISHES "THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY QUARTERLY", A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL WHICH SEEKS TO PRESENT THE BEST OF CURRENT THOUGHT ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC WITH RESPECT TO CURRENT AND FUTURE PROBLEMS, CONTROVERSIES AND OPPORTUNITIES, AND UNCLASSIFIED

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THE "ATLANTIC COMMUNITY NEWS", A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER.

6C. THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL PARTICIPATES IN AND SPONSORS SEMINARS AND OTHER PROGRAMS AND WORKS CLOSELY WITH UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS. KISSINGER

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